



## Personal Statement: Things to Think About

### Opening Section

- Hook: Catch the attention of the reader

### Body Section

- How have your academic, internship, and/or professional work experiences prepared you for this particular graduate program?
- What unique perspectives are you bringing to the program?
- What is your area of interests?
- What are you interested in researching? Which professor would you like to work with? Why?
- How will this program bring you from where you are (Point A) to your future career goal (Point B)?

### Closing Section

- Why this particular graduate program?
- How will this particular graduate program help you achieve your goals?
- Tie the hook and the body to close up the personal statement

## The PARY Method

In a personal statement, we want to show (illustrate) rather than just make statements. For demonstrating a certain characteristic or addressing difficulties, **PARY** Method is a great way in showing concrete examples of what you've done.

**P** – What **P**roblem did you face?

**A** – What **A**ction did you take?

**R** – What was the **R**esult?

**Y** – Why (**Y**) the admissions committee should care



**Thought Outline**

**What do you have to offer the program?**

**What do you wish to get out of the program? What interests you about this particular program?**

**What is your desired area of study and career goals?**